Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

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Geospatial information and services for disasters (for discussion and decision)

Statement provided by:

United Nations Office on Outer Space (UNOOSA)

Statement:

The United Nations Office on Outer Space is pleased to take note of the review of IGIF and the SF-GISD and the importance given to the use of Geospatial information and services for disasters. Since 2009, UNOOSA has been implementing the programme on Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) with a strong component to work with disaster management agencies in Africa, Asia and Latin America on the use of geographic space-based information. UNSPIDER has worked in these countries to increase the capacity to process geographic data, to provide access to data and to guide agencies to the international mechanisms when disasters strike. In addition, UN-SPIDER provides up to date workflows for download, processing and mapping space-based (geographic) data for various natural hazards, alongside up-to-date information about GIS solutions and relevant geographic data sources. As the UN agency mandated to promote international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, UNOOSA brings together providers of space-based information with users in disaster management to leverage the use of space technologies for all phases of the disaster management cycle. It is also working with a wide range of UN organisations active in this area, including GGIM, and is looking forward to further strengthen the capacities in the countries on the use of geographic information, bringing the required information close to the end-users where the information is of vital importance.

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